

September 23, 1953

Ref: C- 2157

Dr. Ralph G. Meader  
Research Grants and Fellowships  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda 14, Maryland

Dear Dr. Meader:

Thank you for your letter of the 17th relating to the administrative transfer of my grant to cancer research funds.

The circumstance recalls the time of my fellowship at Yale University which enjoyed the support of the Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund at the time you were connected with it.

I would be the last to question the pertinence of fundamental biological (particularly genetic) studies to the problems of cancer research. I would assume that this pertinence no longer needs to be justified to anyone. May I assume that this transfer is for administrative purposes [ for which any number of possible causes suggest themselves] and that in future requests for continued support I should present justifications of proposed research without special reference to cancer?

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Associate Professor of Genetics